

Neal Smith National Wildlife Refuge Girl Scout Program

The Rangers at Neal Smith NWR welcome scouts of all ages to participate in badge programs. Each of the programs listed below can be completed during one 3 hour visit to the Refuge. Visits are typically a Saturday morning (9am-12pm) or afternoon (12:30-3:30pm), or a Sunday afternoon (12:30-3:30pm). You must schedule a badge program at least three weeks in advance by contacting Brianna Patrick at 515-994-3400 or brianna_patrick@fws.gov.

Badge programs are free of charge, and supplies will be provided unless otherwise noted. Scouts should dress for the weather, as we will be spending time outside. Bring a water bottle, sunscreen and/or insect repellent, as needed. You may also bring a lunch and eat at the Prairie Learning Center before or after your program. Contact Brianna with questions, or for more detailed information about a specific badge program.

The following badge programs are available:

- **Daisies**- Clover Petal: Use Resources Wisely
- **Brownies**- Legacy Naturalist: Bugs
- **Juniors**- Legacy Naturalist: Flowers
- **Cadette**- Legacy Naturalist: Trees

We also hold a Linking Girls to the Land event in April each year; check our calendar for the current date. During this event, girls are invited to hike through the prairie, create nature crafts, plant native flowers and grasses, and explore careers in natural resources. Our Monarch Madness event, held the second Saturday in September each year, is also very popular with Girl Scout troops. Monarch Madness offers scouts the chance to capture, tag, and release migrating monarch butterflies.

In addition to badge programs, scouts may visit the Neal Smith National Wildlife on their own to hike the trails, view bison and elk, borrow snowshoes in winter, and participate in special events and volunteer opportunities. A list of special events for the current year is available on our online Event Calendar at http://www.fws.gov/refuge/Neal_Smith/Events.html. Volunteers of all ages are also always welcome at Neal Smith NWR!

For live updates and more information, follow the Refuge on Facebook at <https://www.facebook.com/NealSmithNWR> and on Twitter at <https://twitter.com/NealSmithNWR>